

Requirement 6

DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Description of Public Hearing Process

In accordance with Government Code Section 12747, the CAP planners considered poverty related needs and the available resources. Since CAP is administratively housed within the County's Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), planners considered the most effective ways of tapping into the Agency's considerable resources. It was determined that this would be best achieved through viewing the needs of the community's low-income population within the framework of the Agency's strategic initiatives. Therefore, the Public Hearing process undertaken in 2006 for the 2008-2009 Plan was guided by the strategic initiatives. It was developed in consultation with the San Diego State University Institute of Public Health. The surveys and the Public Hearings sought to gauge both the effectiveness of current and other needed services.

The venues for the hearings were held at community collaborative meetings. There were five (5) hearings held – one for each of the HHSA service regions. Notices of the hearings were published in the San Diego Union Tribune, the North County Times, and community flyers. Additionally, the Family Self-Sufficiency (CAP's contracted providers) agencies informed FSS clients about the hearing dates and locations. At each hearing, CAP staff gave a brief overview of CAP and the role of community action agencies in serving low-income families and eliminating poverty.

2. Copies of Public Notices

(See Appendix E for copies of the Public Hearing notices.)

3. Summary of Testimony Received

Name	Sector (low-income, private)	Testimony or concerns	Was the concern addressed in the CAP?	If so, indicate the page #	If not, indicate the reason
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Transportation – families with many children cannot afford public transportation. Children get tired walking long distances to go to school. Discount passes are needed	Yes	See Page 4, Response i and NPI 1.2	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Parents are required to provide their own transportation for children living less than one mile from school. Discount passes are needed.	Yes	See Page 4, Response i below and NPI 1.2	

See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Parenting and financial assistance classes are offered at night which poses problems for parents needing childcare. Classes should be offered during the day.	Yes	See Page 4 Response ii below and NPI 1.3.	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	More information needed on free tax preparation services. Some families pay up to \$1000 to get taxes done.	Yes	See page 4, Response iii below & NPI 1.3	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Apartment complex residents were not informed of CAP's EITC services even though the complex is subsidized/operated by one of the EITC providers.	Yes	See page 4, Response iii below & NPI 1.3	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Need financial assistance, grants and/or supportive services for attending school.	Yes	NPI 1.3	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Low-income sector	Children need free after-school activities. Popular sports activities cost \$50 to \$70.	Yes	See page 4, Response iv below and NPI 6.3	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Participants noted that while there are structural factors leading to poverty, families and individuals are also handicapped by a culture of poverty. Should be helped to change their perspective and begin focusing on ways to become self sufficient – e.g., getting more education	Yes	(NPI 1.3- Financial Education)	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Clients have to deal with racism and discrimination.	No		Reference was to discrimination clients encounter generally & is beyond the scope of this Plan.
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	There is a lack of cultural understanding on the part of providers.	Yes	See Page 4, Response v below and NPI 4.1	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	More mentorship is needed for clients.	Yes	NPI 2.1 & NPI 4.1 and NPI 5	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Lack of affordable housing	Yes	NPI 6.2	

See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Lack of health insurance	Yes	NPI 6.1	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Lack of support systems	Yes	NPI 1.2 & 4.1	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Environmental change needed – i.e., need to have financial institutions back in low-income communities	Yes	Page 5 below, response vi.	
See attached list of Public Hearing participants	Private Sector	Lack of providers that understand issues	Yes	Requirement 1 – Page 12	
	Private & Low-Income Sectors	Variety of comments received regarding after-school program. These included serving younger children, providing additional activities such as aquatic activities, music, etc. One person also requested that brain rehabilitation services be provided.	Yes	See responses vii and viii below (pages 4&5)	

Responses

i. Transportation is addressed in NPI 1.2 Employment Supports. Also, CalWORKs provides transportation as a supportive service for Welfare-to-Work parents.

ii. Participant is a resident of public housing project. CAP staff provided information on CAP's FSS program, including financial education classes. Staff noted that these classes are offered during the day.

iii. Participant is a resident of public housing project. CAP staff provided information on the tax preparation service. This will be followed up with the housing project's management agency providing additional information on the tax services.

iv. Participant is a resident of public housing project. CAP staff provided information on CAP's Critical Hours program – and after-school program for middle school children.

v. CAP will continue to network with community service providers and provide information about available service and programs to educate service providers. HHSA also offers

Diversity Schoolhouse training. This is a monthly training series designed to help frontline workers within social services, education, and law enforcement improve their communication with, and understanding of, the various ethnic, cultural, religious and other socially diverse groups in the San Diego community.

vi. It is true that there is currently a dearth of financial institutions in low-income communities. However, CAP, through the FSS providers, addresses this issue by linking clients with institutions that provide free or low-fee checking/savings accounts.

vii. CAP staff is currently reviewing the Critical Hours program to determine the best way to address the needs of the middle school children and their parents, and prevent entry into the juvenile justice system. This was conveyed to the public hearing participant.

viii. With limited resources the Critical Hours program cannot meet all needs especially those that require highly specialized services. The program cannot provide rehabilitation for brain injuries. However, as these issues arise, parties are referred to the appropriate resource in the community.

4. Description of other methods used to address the needs of the community

Several other methods were used in completing the needs assessment. They are:

- Surveys that were completed by low income individuals and representatives of community based organizations serving low income families. Details of the survey questions and results are presented in Requirement 1, Section 2 – Needs Assessment.
- Review and analysis of U.S. Census Data
- Review and analysis of data from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). SANDAG is the association of local governments in the San Diego region which serves as the forum for regional decision making.
- Input from the Family Self Sufficiency providers, other community service providers and services network collaboratives.